

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06

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INFO AMEMBASSY BERLIN

AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

AMEMBASSY SOFIA

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: NATO, ECON, UR, XH, OTRA

SUBJ: ECONADS: MEETING OF JULY 17, 1975

REF: A) AGENDA - AC/127-A/474; B) BUCHAREST 3310

SUMMARY: CANADIAN QUERY ON SHORT AND LONG-TERM
ASSISTANCE TO ROMANIA AND EFFECTS OF HEAVY FLOODING ON ECONOMIC
PROGRAM AND RELATIONS WITH COMECON PARTNERS WAS PRINCIPLE SUBJECT
DISCUSSED AFTER DISPATCH OF SHORT AGENDA. END SUMMARY.

1. CHAIRMAN BILLY, WITH BELGIAN REP ONLY MEMBER ABSENT, MOVED
QUICKLY THROUGH AGENDA, REF A. ITEMS ON PRICE POLICY IN COMECON
INTRA-BLOC TRADE; BAM: SECOND TRANSSIBERIAN RAILWAY; PROSPECTS OF
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SIGNIFICANT EXPORTS OF NATURAL GAS FROM THE USSR TO WESTERN EUROPE
UP TO 1985 WERE LEFT OPEN FOR FURTHER DISCUSSION AT SUBSEQUENT MEET-
INGS. CHAIRMAN ASKED FOR INPUTS ON THESE ITEMS. FRENCH REP
(AUTIER) SAID COMMENTS ON THEIR TRANSSIBERIAN RAILWAY PAPER

WOULD BE APPRECIATED.

2. IN TURNING TO AGENDA ITEM V, EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION, CHAIRMAN MADE REFERENCE TO LATEST PRESS REVIEW OF 15 JULY, QUOTING NEWS CLIPPINGS CONCERNING THE POSSIBLE U.S. GRAIN SALES TO THE USSR. THERE WERE NO COMMENTS FROM NATIONAL REPS ON THIS SUBJECT.

3. UNDER ANY OTHER BUSINESS, ITEM VI, PORTUGUESE REP (MACEDO) ASKED FOR COMMENTS ON LETTER DISTRIBUTED BY CANADIAN REP (HERMAN) ON THE ROMANIAN FLOOD SITUATION. WHILE PORTUGUESE REP WAS NOT PRECISE IN STATING HIS INTERESTS HE WAS INSISTENT ON HEARING VIEWS OF HIS ECONOMIC COMMITTEE COLLEAGUES BECAUSE OF "POLITICAL COMMITTEE MEETING" LATER IN THE DAY. FRG REP (KROOG) GAVE DETAILED AND APPARENTLY FACTUAL REPORT RECEIVED BY TELEPHONE FROM BONN. REPORT WAS BASED ON ROMANIAN PRESS CONFERENCE IN BONN. OVERALL IMPRESSION OF FRG AUTHORITIES WAS THAT ROMANIANS EXPECTED DISASTER ASSISTANCE AID TO COME FROM COMECON COUNTRIES BUT OTHER ASSISTANCE FROM THE WEST. FRG REP STATED WESTERN ASSISTANCE REQUESTED BY ROMANIA WAS CHARACTERIZED BY NEED TO SOFTEN ECONOMIC BLOW OF FLOOD DISASTER. CANADIAN REP ADVISED THAT APPROACH MADE IN OTTAWA STRESSED LONG-TERM TRADE CONCESSIONS TO AID BOP PROBLEMS OTHERWISE AS ROMANIANS SAID "THEY MIGHT FALL FURTHER INTO THE CLUTCHES OF THE COMECON." FRENCH REP REMINDED COMMITTEE THAT NATO HAD PROCEDURES FOR EXCHANGING DISASTER ASSISTANCE INFORMATION. U.S. REP (POLICASTRO) ADVISED COMMITTEE THAT THESE PROCEDURES WERE SET OUT IN CM-85(102)10UQ EDITION. ADDING THAT EMBASSY BUCHAREST HAD FURNISHED INTERESTING REPORT REF B. CHAIRMAN REQUESTED ALL REPS, INCLUDING THE U.S. TO SECURE RELEASE OF AS MUCH INFORMATION FROM THEIR CAPITALS SO THAT ECONOMIC DIRECTORATE CAN BEGIN TO FORMULATE A REPORT ON THE ECONOMIC CONSEQUENCES OF THE FLOOD.

4. GUIDANCE REQUESTED: REQUEST WASHINGTON CONSIDERATION OF CONTRIBUTION TO EC ANALYSIS.

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5. CHAIRMAN REQUESTED COMMITTEE STUDY AND PROVIDE REACTIONS DURING THE NEXT TWO WEEKS ON THE OUTLINE PROGRAM OF WORK (ED/75/53)--WHICH WILL BE POUCHED WHEN DISTRIBUTED AND RECEIVED IN THIS OFFICE. THIS ITEM WILL BE SUBJECT FOR COMMITTEE DISCUSSION AT SEPTEMBER 4 MEETING. CHAIRMAN STATED THAT OCT. 2 MEETING WILL ADDRESS QUESTION OF INFLATION AND DEFENSE SPENDING AND WOULD APPRECIATE EARLY IN SEPTEMBER NAMES OF EXPERTS WHO MIGHT ATTEND. CHAIRMAN THEN ADDRESSED THE 1976 COLLOQUIUM "TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER" DISTRIBUTING A LIST OF PROSPECTIVE PARTICIPANTS FROM ACADEMIC AND NON-ACADEMIC CIRCLES. HE ASKED ALL COUNTRIES TO FURNISH ADDITIONAL NAMES AND PARTICULARLY FROM FRENCH SPEAKING MEMBERS--BELGIUM, FRANCE AND ITALY. CHAIRMAN

STATED NEXT EC MEETING WOULD BE JULY 31 COVERING ADDITIONAL COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS II, III, AND IV, OF REF A; DOCUMENT EC/75/51, ISSUED 11 JULY 1975, ON UNITS OF ACCOUNT; UK NOTE AC/127/WP-535, ISSUED 14 JULY 1975, AND FIRST REACTIONS ON FUTURE PROGRAM OF WORK.

6. CANADIAN REP MADE PLEA FOR MORE PRODUCTIVE DIALOGUE ON COUNTRY INPUTS WHICH HE HOPED WOULD BE MADE AVAILABLE IN LARGER NUMBERS. THESE INPUTS SHOULD INCLUDE ASSESSMENTS FROM VARIOUS EMBASSIES IN FULL CONTEXT AND NOT AS EXCERPTS. HE HOPED THAT THE EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION IN THE FUTURE SHOULD BE MORE FRUITFUL THAN IT HAS BEEN IN THE PAST. HE THEN DISTRIBUTED THREE NOTES: 1) PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA: ECONOMIC SITUATION AND ITS RELATIONSHIP TO POLITICAL AND STRATEGIC DOCTRINE; 2) NORTH KOREA: TRADE AND FOREIGN EXCHANGE POSITION; 3) INFORMATION NOTE: THE CUBAN ECONOMY AND THE FIRST PARTY CONGRESS, (BEING FURNISHED TO YOU). UK REP (DOBLE) AGREED BUT THAT COMMITTEE MEMBERS MUST BE SELECTIVE OTHERWISE TIME AND ENERGY WOULD BE SPENT ON MATTERS WHICH WERE NOT MAIN FOCUS OF COMMITTEE; WHICH IN HIS VIEW IS MAKING ASSESSMENTS OF WP COUNTRIES ACTIONS FROM AN ECONOMIC VIEWPOINT. BRUCE

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